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PRICES

The average price received by farmers for **corn** during December in Iowa was \$3.20 per bushel according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Agricultural Prices* report. This was up \$0.06 from the November price but \$0.07 below December 2016.

The December 2017 average price received by farmers for **soybeans**, at \$9.20 per bushel, was down \$0.01 from the November price and \$0.38 below the December 2016 price.

The December average **oat** price per bushel was \$3.13, down \$0.03 from November but \$0.50 above December 2016.

All hay prices in Iowa averaged \$103.00 per ton in December. This was down \$25.00 from the November price but up \$9.00 from the December 2016 price. The December 2017 **alfalfa hay** price averaged \$117.00, down \$16.00 from the previous month but \$18.00 above December 2016. The average price received for **other hay** during December was \$83.00 per ton. This was down \$20.00 from the November price and \$2.00 below the December 2016 price.

The average price was \$17.50 per cwt for **milk**, down \$1.30 from the November price and \$2.00 below one year ago. Prices received for **milk cows** for dairy herd replacement averaged \$1,440 per head as of January 1, 2018.

Prices Received by Farmers - Iowa and United States

	Iowa			United States		
	December 2016	November 2017	December 2017	December 2016	November 2017	December 2017
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Cornbu	3.27	3.14	3.20	3.32	3.15	3.23
Hay, all, baledton	94.00	128.00	103.00	123.00	138.00	136.00
Alfalfaton	99.00	133.00	117.00	127.00	148.00	148.00
Otherton	85.00	103.00	83.00	117.00	118.00	118.00
Oatsbu	2.63	3.16	3.13	2.35	2.68	2.94
Soybeansbu	9.58	9.21	9.20	9.64	9.22	9.30
Milk, allcwt	19.50	18.80	17.50	18.90	18.10	17.20
Milk cows ^{1,2}head	1,570.00	1,580.00	1,440.00	1,620.00	1,610.00	1,520.00

¹ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for January, April, July, and October.

² Milk cow prices are for January 1, 2017, October 1, 2017, and January 1, 2018.

CATTLE

All cattle and calves in Iowa as of January 1, 2018, totaled 4.00 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This was up 100,000 head from January 1, 2017. **Beef cows**, at 970,000 head, were 1 percent above last year. **Milk cow** inventory was up 5,000 head to 220,000 head.

All heifers 500 pounds and over were down 3 percent to 830,000 head. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were down 11 percent from 2017 to 165,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 135,000 head, were the same as the previous year; and **all other heifers** were down 2 percent to 530,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 6 percent from last year at 1.39 million head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were unchanged from a year ago at 70,000 head. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2018, totaled 520,000 head, up 8 percent from last year.

The 2017 **calf crop** was estimated at 1.09 million head, the same as the 2016 calf crop. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2017, totaled 1.26 million head, up 9 percent from one year ago.

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Cattle and Calves, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2017 and 2018

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	3,900	4,000	103	93,705	94,399	101
All cows that have calved	1,180	1,190	101	40,559	41,123	101
Beef cows	965	970	101	31,213	31,723	102
Milk cows	215	220	102	9,346	9,400	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over	860	830	97	20,132	20,245	101
For beef cow replacement	185	165	89	6,368	6,131	96
For milk cow replacement	135	135	100	4,754	4,781	101
Other heifers	540	530	98	9,010	9,332	104
Steers 500 pounds and over	1,310	1,390	106	16,384	16,352	100
Bulls 500 pounds and over	70	70	100	2,244	2,252	100
Calves under 500 pounds	480	520	108	14,386	14,427	100
Cattle on feed ¹	1,160	1,260	109	13,067	14,006	107

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Calf Crop – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Calf crop	1,090	1,090	100	35,093	35,808	102

CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 700,000 head on January 1, 2018, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle on Feed* report. This was unchanged from December 1, 2017, but up 17 percent from January 1, 2017. Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head had 560,000 head on feed, up 8 percent from last month but unchanged from last year. Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in all Iowa feedlots totaled 1,260,000 head, up 3 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year.

Placements of cattle and calves in Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December totaled 100,000 head, a decrease of 18 percent from last month and down 4 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head placed 90,000 head, down 11 percent from last month but up 53 percent from last year. Placements for all feedlots in Iowa totaled 190,000 head, down 15 percent from last month but up 17 percent from last year.

Marketings of fed cattle from Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December totaled 98,000 head, down 11 percent from last month and down 4 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head marketed 46,000 head, down 33 percent from last month and down 2 percent from last year. Marketings for all feedlots in Iowa were 144,000 head, down 20 percent from last month and down 3 percent from last year. **Other disappearance** from all feedlots in Iowa totaled 6,000 head.

NOTE: This report is a combination of estimates from the USDA *Cattle on Feed* survey for Iowa feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship-funded *Cattle on Feed* survey for Iowa feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head.

All Cattle on Feed ¹ – Iowa

Item	Feedlots 1,000+ capacity	Feedlots less than 1,000 capacity	All feedlots
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Cattle on feed, December 1, 2017 ²	700	520	1,220
December placements	100	90	190
December marketings	98	46	144
December other disappearance ³	2	4	6
Cattle on feed, January 1, 2018	700	560	1,260

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

² December 1, 2016, inventory for feedlots with less than 1,000 head capacity and inventory for all feedlots are revised. Revisions to prior months will be published in the February *Cattle on Feed* release.

³ Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – Selected States and United States: 2016-2018

State	Cattle on feed ¹ January 1			Placements during December			Marketings during December			December other disappearance ²		
	2017	2018	'18 as % of '17	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Arizona	250	269	108	30	29	97	30	20	67	1	1	100
California	430	490	114	65	83	128	52	60	115	3	3	100
Colorado	900	970	108	130	120	92	135	135	100	5	5	100
Idaho	260	255	98	38	35	92	36	38	106	2	2	100
Iowa	600	700	117	104	100	96	102	98	96	2	2	100
Kansas	2,170	2,290	106	395	400	101	430	405	94	15	15	100
Minnesota	150	160	107	19	21	111	14	15	107	1	1	100
Nebraska	2,370	2,610	110	450	460	102	440	425	97	10	15	150
Oklahoma	300	315	105	54	54	100	43	52	121	1	2	200
South Dakota	230	250	109	38	32	84	46	39	85	2	3	150
Texas	2,420	2,640	109	365	385	105	365	385	105	10	20	200
Washington	185	210	114	32	27	84	41	30	73	1	2	200
Other States	340	330	97	65	53	82	43	50	116	2	3	150
United States	10,605	11,489	108	1,785	1,799	101	1,777	1,752	99	55	74	135

¹ Cattle on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Cattle on Feed, Number on Feed by Class, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter – Selected States and United States: 2017-2018

State	Steers & Steer Calves			Heifers & Heifer Calves		
	January 1, 2017	October 1, 2017	January 1, 2018	January 1, 2017	October 1, 2017	January 1, 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Arizona	242	241	258	8	7	11
California	400	400	440	30	30	50
Colorado	570	560	565	330	380	405
Idaho	180	165	175	80	80	80
Iowa	460	480	530	140	170	170
Kansas	1,170	1,160	1,190	1,000	1,090	1,100
Minnesota	125	98	127	25	22	33
Nebraska	1,510	1,490	1,640	860	800	970
Oklahoma	190	185	185	110	135	130
South Dakota	135	135	145	95	85	105
Texas	1,710	1,700	1,730	710	900	910
Washington	115	130	140	70	70	70
Other States	215	190	210	125	110	120
United States	7,022	6,934	7,335	3,583	3,879	4,154

SHEEP

All sheep and lambs inventory in Iowa as of January 1, 2018, totaled 165,000 head according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. The sheep and lambs inventory is down 10,000 head from last year. Total **breeding stock**, at 115,000 head, was 4 percent below one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** decreased 9 percent from a year ago and totaled 50,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2017 decreased 8 percent to 115,000 head. **Wool production** for the State was 780,000 pounds, with fleece weights averaging 5.6 pounds.

All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2017 and 2018

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	175.0	165.0	94	5,250.0	5,230.0	100
Total breeding sheep	120.0	115.0	96	3,875.0	3,830.0	99
Ewes	95.0	91.0	96	3,045.0	3,005.0	99
Rams	5.0	5.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	20.0	19.0	95	660.0	655.0	99
Total market	55.0	50.0	91	1,375.0	1,400.0	102

Lamb Crop – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	125.0	115.0	92	3,250.0	3,200.0	98

Wool Production, Price and Value – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	165.0	140.0	85	3,585.0	3,440.0	96
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	5.5	5.6	102	7.3	7.2	99
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	900	780	87	26,050	24,700	95
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.56	0.52	93	1.45	1.47	101
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	504	406	81	37,721	36,424	97

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

GOATS

Milk goat inventory in Iowa as of January 1, 2018 was 31,000 head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Iowa ranked third in total milk goats. The inventory was up 2 percent from January 2017. Total **meat and other** goat inventory was 35,000 head, an increase of 9 percent from the previous year.

Goat Inventory – Selected States and United States: 2017 and 2018

	Milk Goats		Meat & Other Goats	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
California.....	41,000	40,000	87,000	80,000
Iowa.....	30,500	31,000	32,000	35,000
Minnesota	12,000	14,000	22,000	24,000
Tennessee	7,000	7,500	110,000	104,000
Texas	22,000	26,000	790,000	795,000
Wisconsin ¹	44,000	47,000	(NA)	(NA)
United States	373,000	380,000	2,115,000	2,098,000

(NA) Not Available

¹ Beginning in 2016, Meat and Other Goats for Wisconsin is no longer published individually. It is now included in the Other States total.